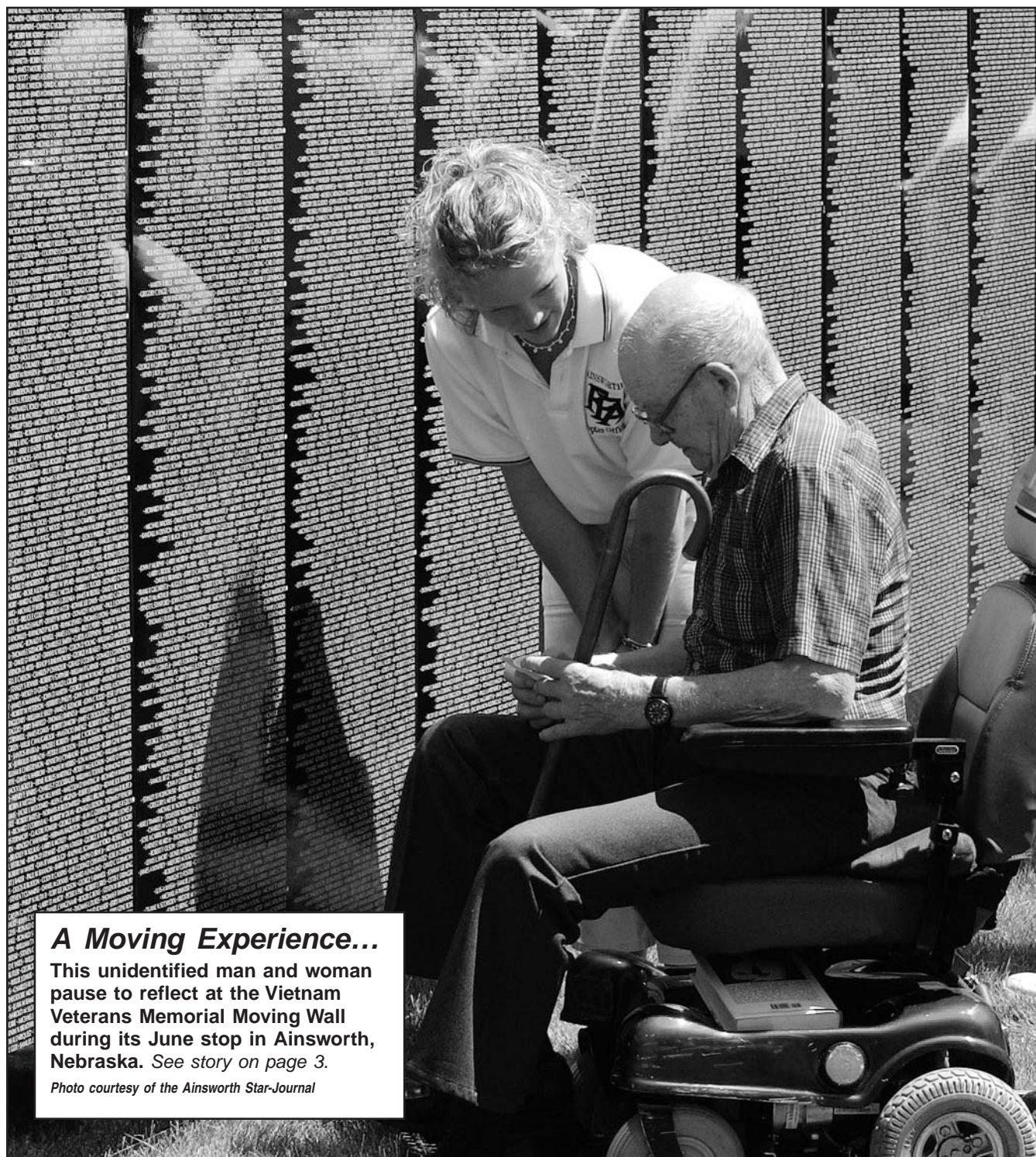


the Roadrunner

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

August/September 2004



A Moving Experience...

This unidentified man and woman pause to reflect at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall during its June stop in Ainsworth, Nebraska. See story on page 3.

Photo courtesy of the Ainsworth Star-Journal

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The information in this newsletter is contributed
by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



Leadership is an Attitude

By James Knott
District 7 Engineer



James Knott

"I am convinced that attitude is the key to success or failure in almost any of life's endeavors. Your attitude—your perspective, your outlook, how you feel about yourself, how you feel about other people—determines your priorities, your actions, your values. Your attitude determines how you interact with other people and how you interact with yourself."

— Carolyn Warner

Former President Ronald Reagan, during a discussion of the jelly beans that were a fixture upon his desk, once said "You can learn a lot about a man by the way he eats jelly beans."

His premise was that actions reveal the heart and the simple, subconscious act of eating jelly beans could reveal a lot about a person's character. Some of the wisest people to walk the face of this earth have told us that our actions reflect what we believe and cherish in our hearts. These actions are not necessarily connected to what we know, but they are always intertwined with what we believe. Leadership is no different. As we are given the opportunity to work with people in the course of our duties, we show what we truly believe by the way we interact and treat those people.

We, in the Department of Roads, have been exposed to an extensive amount of excellent training concerning leadership, quality, and management to name a few. Training creates a base of knowledge from which we can grow and mature in our thinking and, ultimately, our actions. However, until we come to the point of believing the information is true and the skills are effective, they will not be practiced and become a part of who we are. I can recall walking away from training sessions thinking, "that was nice and informative," but little change in my actions resulted. It was easy to consider the training as being ineffective; however the result rested with me. It was my responsibility to take what was learned and believe that it was worth a try and then reinforce my beliefs by practicing the skills, eventually establishing a habit which results in personal and professional improvement.

Great Leadership

Although formal training in the skills of leadership and management are important, the most critical aspects of leadership come directly from our hearts. Attitudes such as compassion, strength, humility, gentleness, patience and openness come to mind as being those on which great leadership is founded. Leadership is helping people achieve their greatest potential; providing them with the tools, training, encouragement and direction so that they can become the best that they can be.

General Schwarzkopf said that leadership is a combination of strategy and character, but if you had to be without one or the other, be without strategy. Reputation is what people see you do in a given situation. Character is what you do when no one is watching; it is the measure of who you are. Character and attitude are linked inextricably.

A good summary term for the attitudes required for leadership is servanthood. As leaders we must clearly present the vision and the goals for the mission at hand; however, once that is accomplished we must serve our team by providing everything that we can to help them be successful in fulfilling their role in the mission. This includes emphasizing their strengths and minimizing their weaknesses; empowering them to think and act on their own; openly discussing the challenges of the task and paving the way for their success, reviewing in a positive manner their progress toward the goal and encouraging continued growth; celebrating their accomplishments and giving them the recognition for a job well done.

Regardless of your position within the department, you have the opportunity to lead by example toward accomplishing the mission of the Department of Roads. Let your good character shine so that those with whom you work may be emboldened by your vision, empowered by your strength and encouraged by your praise. Go forth and do good. ♦

The Moving Wall in the Sandhills

By Larry A. Rau
District 8 – Ainsworth

In December 2003, after hearing the news that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall would be coming to Ainsworth in June, I was honored when Project Co-Chairman John Gross of Gross Seed Company asked me to be chairman of the Site Selection and Installation Committee. I am a Vietnam veteran, serving there from February 1968 through February 1969 with the Army's First Air Cavalry Division.

The Moving Wall is in a slight V-shape and is 253-feet long, 6-feet high in the center and tapering to 4-feet high at the ends. Two half-size replicas of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., have been touring the country for nearly 20 years. The names of more than 58,000 Vietnam veterans who gave their lives for their country are inscribed on the memorial.

In March, my survey crew and I went to several locations to find a good, respectable area with parking and lighting. We took some elevations at different locations, including Courthouse Park, Ainsworth High School football field, and East City Park baseball field. We selected the baseball field as it was flat, with a good bluegrass outfield, seating, lights and security fence, and lots of parking area.

At the end of April, we staked out the wall, turned the angles and took elevations. We did this in conjunction with a training exercise for a new employee, as it was not in any traffic, and he could see how the instrument works and is operated.

Crew members included myself, Jim Scholtes, Bill Allen, Dan Zwiebel, Jim Baker, and Carl Hart, all from the District 8 construction office in Ainsworth.

I asked fellow members of the Ainsworth Volunteer Fire Department if they would help erect the wall when it arrived on Saturday, June 5. They said "yes," and provided more than 20 members to carry all 73 of the 4-foot by 6-foot aluminum panels, in addition to 80 braces and stakes to support the wall. It took us 2½ hours to erect the wall on Saturday morning, June 5, and the wall was opened for visits just as it was completed around noon.

Opening ceremonies were held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, June 6. Thirteen American Legion Post Homes and VFW Post Homes presented colors at the opening. The Offutt Brass Quintet from The Heartland of America Band performed.



An Air Force Bell Ranger Helicopter circled the baseball field and landed east of the Wall. It was piloted by Major General Roger P. Lempke, Adjutant General of the Nebraska National Guard. He gave a short speech and Brent Small, "The Musical Voice of America's Veterans," was the featured speaker.

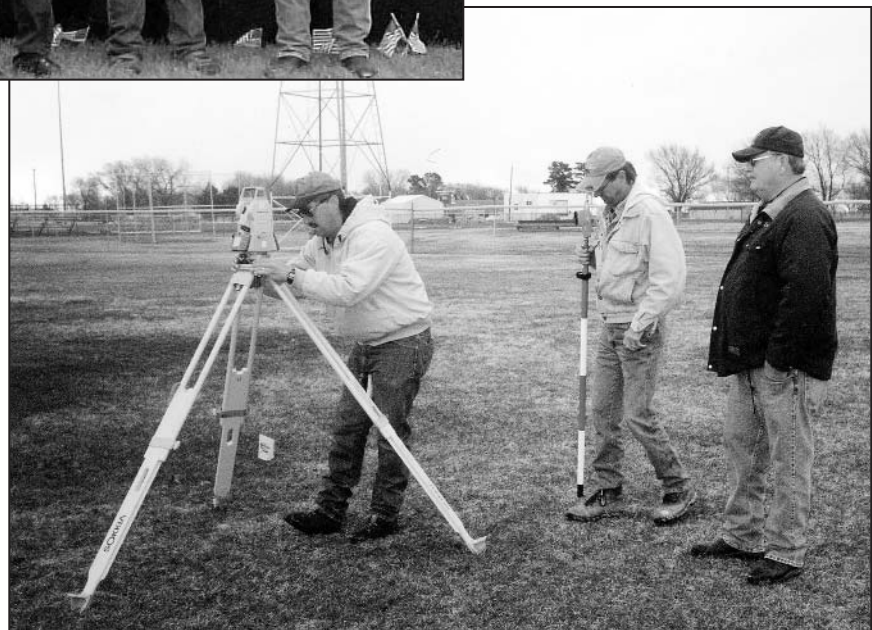
From June 6 - 10, visitors from throughout the United States and the world stopped to view The Moving Wall, with 3,233 people signing the guest book. Some signed as a family, so there were well over that number visiting. People from twenty-four states and five countries visited.

On June 10 at 4:00 p.m., my committee of the Ainsworth Fire Department disassembled the wall and placed it back on the trailer ready to go to its next stop in North Dakota. ♦

Left - (l to r), Project co-chairmen Vernon Wood, John Gross and committee chairman Larry Rau stand in front of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall, which came to Ainsworth June 6-10.

Below - (l to r), District 8 survey crew members, Carl Hart, Dan Zwiebel and Larry Rau staked the location where the Moving Wall was placed for viewing.

Photos by Kristi Frew



Wetlands Education Program Enhances State Resource

Diverse wetland ecosystems, located throughout the state of Nebraska, and serving as virtual outdoor science labs, are waiting to be explored by eager young students with inquisitive minds and a willingness to gain some hands-on experience.

This thought prompted Steve Duecker, Highway Environmental Biologist at NDOR, to pursue the possibility of utilizing NDOR's wetland mitigation banks as educational tools.

A former junior high school science teacher in the Iowa public school system, Duecker was excited about the potential of NDOR's 18 wetland banks to serve a dual purpose. When he suggested the idea to his supervisor, Cindy Veys, Environmental Section Manager, she agreed there was a need and it should be investigated.

"Right now those wetland banks are a resource for mitigation for the state's road construction projects; but just as important, they're an educational resource and we're trying to maximize their value," Veys said.

After discussions about a year-and-a-half ago, Environmental Section members, including Veys, Duecker, Carol Wienhold, Highway Environmental Biologist, and Jason Jurgens, Highway Environmental Program Manager, decided to contact Lois Mayo, the head of the science curriculum for the Lincoln Public Schools, and discuss what they had to offer the schools. Mayo liked the idea and organized a meeting with science teachers.

Favorable Responses

According to Veys, the teachers were excited about the possibilities and signed up for exploratory field trips to several sites, including the Waverly, Rock Creek and Ceresco mitigation bank sites to examine firsthand what they had to offer. Favorable responses

were received, including a request from Mickle Middle School science teacher Joe Rousseau to take their 7th grade science classes to one of the bank sites.

Good Experience

Duecker noted, "We had morning and afternoon sessions, with about 60 kids in each session. We split our time between Nine-Mile Prairie and the Waverly wetland bank site. I think, in general, the students had a good experience, although smaller groups



Carol Wienhold, NDOR Highway Environmental Biologist, shows 7th grade students at Lincoln's North Star High School some of the plant life found in wetlands near the school.

would enhance the learning process. I was gratified to see these students engaged in educational activities and enjoying it."

North Star High School science teacher Tracie Chapo invited Carol Wienhold to share her knowledge with 7th grade biology students. Wienhold said she conducted four classroom sessions, with between 17 and 22 students in each session. The time was split between indoor sessions and outdoor time spent at the wetlands near the school grounds.

"I thought it was important to introduce them to plant life in a different environment, and I challenged them to think about what it's like to live in an aquatic environment," Wienhold said.

Chapo was so impressed with the experience her students gained, she sent a letter of appreciation, noting

Wienhold's position as a real scientist gave her instant credibility with students, and they were engaged and interested in her discussion.

Chapo added, "A lot of my students have expressed interest in a career that doesn't mean sitting at a desk or working retail, and I want to expose them to scientists who get outside and do cool stuff."

Veys noted the biggest drawback for the Lincoln Public Schools involvement in the program is transportation to the NDOR wetland bank sites. Two of the new schools, North Star and Southwest high schools, have wetlands near their school grounds, which can be utilized for educational purposes.

Adequate staffing and supervision by the schools is another major consideration for the field trips.

NDOR's Environmental Section staff faces the challenge of providing additional resources for the program, while ensuring their routine responsibilities are accomplished, Veys said. She noted the primary time for the field trips would be March through May, with the possibility of summer enrichment programs, depending on staff availability.

Although the initial field trip locations have been in Lincoln, Veys said they would like to expand the program to other parts of the state and involve smaller schools.

Valuable Resource

According to Veys, the next step will be to contact towns close to wetland bank sites to let them know about this valuable resource, and that NDOR biologists can help with educational programs at these bank sites.

Veys emphasized that this program has the strong support of NDOR Director John Craig.

"Mr. Craig is really supportive of this kind of activity. He feels strongly that, while the main role of NDOR is to build safe and efficient roads, we also have a responsibility for environmental stewardship of the natural resources in our care. This program fits right in line with us taking care of the resource and maximizing its value to the public." ♦

Surface Transportation Program Plans Announced

Nebraska Department of Roads' Director John Craig recently announced the fiscal year 2005 Surface Transportation Program. This publication reflects how the department allocates the taxpayer's highway user dollars to provide the best statewide surface transportation system possible for all Nebraskans and the traveling public.

The 2005 Surface Transportation Program is published at \$640 million. The state highway program totals \$380 million and is funded from state and federal highway user fees. The local system program for city streets and county roads and bridges totals \$260 million and is also funded by state, federal and local highway user fees.

A total of 109 new projects will be let to contract on the state highway system during fiscal year 2005 (July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005). Projects will range in size from small lighting, guardrail, pavement marking, minor concrete repair and joint repair projects located throughout the state to large projects such as major 6-lane interstate expansion projects and continued progress on the expressway system including the York Bypass on Highway US-81, Scottsbluff to Gering Bypass on Highway N-71, West Dodge Road in Omaha, K & L Interchange in Lincoln and Hooper East and West on Highway US-275.

The 2005 and Beyond Surface Transportation and Program Book is available on the NDOR website at www.nebraskatransportation.org, or by contacting your District Office, or the Communication Office at Central Headquarters. Ever concerned with the safety of the driving public, the Department of Roads asks all motorists to drive safely, to obey the traffic laws and to always wear seat belts. ♦

Travelers in Nebraska now have access to 30 new state-of-the-art information kiosks located across the state.

New Tourism & Weather Kiosks Boon for Travelers

The N-View system supplies travelers with current weather conditions and comprehensive tourism information, thanks to a state and federal partnership. The system is one of the first of its kind in the nation to combine travel and weather information on each machine.

In announcing the new kiosks, Governor Mike Johanns said, "This program provides an excellent promotional opportunity for our state with potential to generate additional tourism dollars."

A prototype, located along Interstate 80 near Seward, has averaged 100 users per day as it has been tested and modified over the past nine months. The N-View system includes 10 kiosks along Interstate 80 as well as 20 kiosks at entry points to each of the nine scenic and historic byways. The 30 kiosks have the potential to influence the travel decisions and routes of more than 500,000 travelers per year on Nebraska's highways and byways.

NDOR Partnership

N-View is the product of a partnership between the Nebraska Department of Economic Development's Division of Travel and Tourism, the Nebraska Department of Roads and Nebraska's nine Scenic and Historic Byways. The Federal Highway Administration funded 80 percent of the project, or \$240,000, through the National Scenic Byways Program. The Nebraska Division of Travel and Tourism funded the remaining 20 percent of the cost.

The weather information on each system is provided via satellite from the National Weather Service and displayed on weather maps and charts. The touch-screen kiosks are computer-based and are designed to deliver information to the user in the form of video, graphics or on-screen text.

Safety Tool

John Craig, Director of the Nebraska Department of Roads, said, "By presenting real-time weather updates, the weather kiosk also serves as a safety tool for travelers, keeping them informed and potentially reducing weather-related accidents. Anytime we can improve safety, it's a worthy endeavor and the added tourism benefit is icing on the cake." ♦

N-View Locations

At I-80 Rest Areas:

- Milford eastbound
- Goehner westbound
- York east & westbound
- Kearney east & westbound
- Cozad east & westbound
- Sutherland east & westbound

At Nebraska Byways:

- Bridges to Buttes-US-20
- 385 Gold Rush Byway-US-385
- Heritage Highway-US-136
- Lewis & Clark Scenic Byway-US-75
- Loup Rivers Scenic Byway-NE-11 & 91
- Outlaw Trail Scenic Byway-NE-12
- Platte River Scenic Trails Byway-US-30
- Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway-US-2
- Western Trails Historic & Scenic Byway-US-26 & NE-92

Service Awards

Congratulations to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *August* and *September*.

50 Years

Arnold Henning, Government Affairs

40 Years

Rodger Florom, Information Systems
Thomas Wing, Roadway Design

30 Years

Daniel Post, District 2
Steven Meyer, District 4
Wilbur Ramsey, District 1
Richard Crow, District 4
Katherine Anderson, Information Systems
Beverly Vonasek, Rail & Public Trans.
Marjorie Bevan, Right-of-Way
Allen Horak, District 4
Robert Frickel, Right-of-Way
William Cary, District 1
Robert Sanburn, District 1

20 Years

Kelly Russell, District 8
Jill Smith, Rail & Public Transportation
Nick Castillo, District 1
Steven Lulow, District 5
David Schoenmaker, Planning & Proj. Dev.

10 Years

Chad Deseive, District 8
William Divine, District 6
Todd Sager, District 5
Kevin Burris, District 2
Darin Brown, District 2
Barbara Laughlin, District 1
Robert Polen, District 4

A Rewarding Thought

"Everyone wants to be appreciated, so if you appreciate someone, don't keep it a secret."

— Mary Kay Ash, 1915-2001,
Founder of Mary Kay Cosmetics

**Brought to you by the Rewards
& Recognition Agency Panel.**

Nomination forms can be found at
<http://www.dor.state.ne.us> on the
Human Resources page.

Rewards & Recognition

April, May, June 2004

Employees & Managers of the Quarter

Employees

Managers

District 1

Roger D. Kloke
Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr.
David City

Mark Bors
Hwy. Maintenance Supervisor
Dorchester

District 2

To be announced

To be announced

District 3

Thomas Hyland
Hwy. Construction Tech III
Columbus

Jesse Milligan
Hwy. Maintenance Supervisor
Wayne

District 4

Jeff Crowell
Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr.
Ravenna

Rick Kwiatkowski
Hwy. Project Manager
St. Paul

District 5

To be announced

To be announced

District 6

Lance Rohde
Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr.
Ansley

Dennis White
Hwy. Project Manager
Broken Bow

District 7

Merle Poppe
Hwy. Maintenance Crew Chief
Grant

Howard Mooney
Hwy. Maintenance Supervisor
Minden

District 8

Jim Baker
Hwy. Construction Tech III
Ainsworth

None

Central Headquarters

Pegge Gross-Rhode
Printing Tech III
Communication

Jill McAuliffe
Administrative Assistant II
Director's Office

Vertrie "Joey" Kramer
Hwy. ROW Agent
Right-of-Way

Roger Ripley
Hwy. ROW Project Manager
Right-of-Way

Multi-Tasking: The Secret to Great Productivity

Meet Mary the Multi-Tasker. She's a whiz at doing several things at once—and getting an amazing amount of work accomplished in a single day.

Mary could work down the corridor from you. Or she could be one of the folks you meet for an occasional cup of coffee during the day. Or *you* could be Mary the Multi-Tasker, or someone quite like her. That is, if you're willing to learn a few simple multi-tasking skills and begin practicing them each day ... just like Mary:

7:02 a.m. Mary is on her way to work. Her travel time is highly productive, as she listens to an instructional tape on listening skills. In some instances, she tapes meetings at the office and reviews the content while driving.

7:30 a.m. Mary boots up her computer. While her computer goes through its two-minute start-up routine, Mary is busy jotting points to raise and questions to ask co-workers during an upcoming late-morning meeting.

7:54 a.m. First telephone call. While talking with a customer, Mary gets two "brainstorms"—things she can do in the next few weeks to increase customer satisfaction. She jots these down on her idea notepad along with a few supporting comments. She'll refer to these again in the weeks ahead.

8:13 a.m. Second call, but Mary placed this one. Unfortunately, she's put on hold. Rather than silently wait, she takes out her "odd moment list" and begins working on the items at hand.

8:46 a.m. Mary opens four windows on her computer. These are the computer applications she'll be using throughout the day. She doesn't waste time opening and closing applications as the day goes on.

9:02 a.m. Although Mary's meeting was supposed to start at 9:00, not all participants have arrived. So Mary pulls out her to-call list and her cell phone, and begins making contacts.

9:13 a.m. The meeting finally begins (Mary has completed three calls). One special page of Mary's notebook is her problem-solving sketch sheet. When there's a lull in the meeting or when agenda items truly don't affect her, she allows her mind to wander, probing possible solutions to two vexing employee problems she's currently facing. Her notes appear on the doodle sheet.

10:16 a.m. Mary needs to finish her telephone calls. In front of her are three piles: 1) call reminder slips, 2) notes on memoranda and reports she has to write, and 3) items she must review and read. She places her first call and is put on hold so she immediately moves to pile #2 and begins to work. She finishes her eight calls at 10:58 a.m. Fourteen minutes would have been wasted—except that Mary had productive work to do during "wait" times.

11:30 a.m. Lunch with colleague. Whenever possible, Mary tries to have lunch with people she knows in other organizations. She spends much of her time asking her companion questions about his business. It's like participating in a mini trade conference, Mary says.

12:28 p.m. Back in the office, a customer calls about a new product. Anticipating calls about this product, Mary keeps her product file (and other files on timely topics) in a reference corner of her desk.

12:52 p.m. Needing to do some quick research, Mary turns to the database she maintains on her PC. A year before, Mary consolidated a large smattering of computer files and data into a single easy-to-access data file. When she updates one part of the file, all related information is updated.

1:31 p.m. Time to prepare a few reports. A while ago, Mary carefully outlined the reporting needs of everyone around her, and devised a

report template that contains all the information everyone needs. The result: one report instead of a half-dozen, all produced at once.

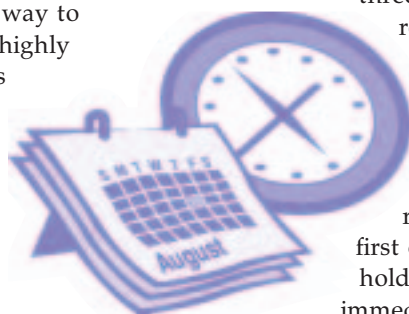
2:15 p.m. Mary takes a coffee break. But knowing that she must talk with two employees this afternoon, she invites them to join her. She completes her business over coffee.

2:40 p.m. New business. Mary must evaluate some additions to the product and service line. Thinking ahead to everything that must happen before new items are introduced, she develops a master calendar, parceling out suggested tasks to everyone around her. In short, she's completed the next six weeks of assignments at once.

3:21 p.m. Mary goes through tomorrow's tasks with her assistant. She provides a comprehensive summary of all that needs to be accomplished, which in turn allows the assistant to plan for effective multi-tasking. For example, the report Mary produced at 1:31 p.m. needs to be proofread. Mary also needs many copies of another document. While Mary's assistant stands at the photocopier, she can proofread the report.

4:30 p.m. Mary's workday is over. But she makes a strategic exit, stopping by co-workers and employees she hasn't seen that day. She wishes each of them a good evening and, in the space of just four minutes, picks up some valuable information about upcoming projects.

Mary possesses the skills of an outstanding multi-tasker: organization, planning, initiative. Most important, she is always aware of the multiplicity of tasks facing her—and the limited time available in the days ahead. If you're trying to boost your own multi-tasking skills, couple that awareness with an effort to build your planning and organizing skills, and you'll find yourself becoming even more productive. Better yet, find people like Mary around you and learn multi-tasking skills by watching them—while you're doing other things, of course. ♦



NDOR Employees Aid Hallam Tornado Victims

The May 22 tornado that ripped through the village of Hallam (15 miles southwest of Lincoln) brought much heartache and sadness to its 300 residents.

Homes, businesses and possessions were lost in the blink of an eye. Two churches and the community auditorium were destroyed. One life was lost. The path of destruction left millions of dollars in damages to the immediate area, in addition to tremendous personal and emotional turmoil.

Despite the devastation and despair, glimmers of hope for the future prevailed, thanks to the assistance of many dedicated organizations and individuals, including NDOR employees who volunteered their time to assist with cleanup and recovery efforts.

Several NDOR employees who live in Hallam were directly affected by the tornado. Two couples, Bruce and

Connie Trautwein, Tom and Monica Sands, were among those who lost their homes in the natural disaster. Bruce is an Electrician in Logistics, Connie is a Motor Carrier Clerk II in Rail & Public Transportation, and Tom is a Highway Logistics Operation Manager in Logistics at NDOR in Lincoln. They were overwhelmed and gratified by the spirit of caring and generosity shown by the many NDOR employees who joined together to help where they were needed.

That spirit was exemplified by Dick First, Highway Maintenance Worker at District 4 in Hastings, who took two weeks of vacation and donated his time to help with the cleanup. A long-time friend of Bruce Trautwein's, Dick operated a front-end loader donated by Peter Kiewit Sons', Inc. The loader also came with a broom attachment, which helped in cleaning the debris.

NDOR employees who volunteered their time and energy to the Hallam

tornado cleanup and recovery efforts were numerous (see list). Still others offered donations of food, clothing and money.

Bruce Trautwein noted, "We will never forget the outpouring of friends, family and co-workers who came to our aid when we needed it most. They brought a ray of hope to an otherwise hopeless situation."

In addition to these volunteer efforts by individuals, many agencies, including the Department of Roads, provided aid to Hallam and the surrounding area during the immediate aftermath of the storm. Some areas of involvement included traffic control, equipment operators, tree cleanup and sign repair.

NDOR workers rerouted traffic around downed power lines and flooded roadways following the tornado devastation in Hallam. Trucks, loaders, and a backhoe, with operators, were brought in from State Roads yards within a couple of hours. Traffic control was provided for flooding at Roca and downed power lines along highways at Wilber, Bennet and Union. Tree cleanup and sign repair in Dorchester, Swanton, Wilber, Hallam and several nearby communities was provided.

NDOR workers set up four message boards on Highway 77 and provided traffic cones and barricades for Hallam area traffic control. Twenty-two barrels went to Norris Public School for traffic control. The department offered 50 rakes to the Norris Public Schools to aid cleanup. NDOR provided staff to the State's Emergency Operations Center, staffed the District Operations Center, and worked closely with law enforcement and emergency agencies. ♦

Photo by Connie Trautwein
Right - Dick First, Hwy. Maint. Worker at District 4 in Hastings, donates his time to operate a front-end loader during the cleanup at Hallam.



Photo by Jim Laughlin
Tony Siemering, Crew Chief at the Lincoln Superior Street maintenance facility, removes debris from Hallam streets.



Photo by Connie Trautwein
NDOR employees volunteer to assist with Hallam recovery efforts after the May 22 tornado.



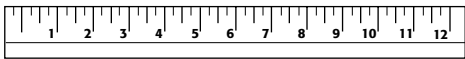
Photo by Jim Laughlin
This flag, embedded in a wall of a damaged home, remains as a symbolic reminder of the community's strong foundation and values in the face of formidable obstacles.

- NDOR volunteers (spouses and relatives) who provided help with the cleanup and recovery efforts after the Hallam tornado:
- Andy Andreasen – District 2
 - Kay Benson – Logistics
 - Steve Biltott – Logistics
 - Ardelle Boardman – Traffic Engineering
 - Maurice Bonne – Logistics
 - Glenn Dein – District 2, Elkhorn
 - Cork Dewispelare – Logistics
 - Dan Dougherty – Logistics
 - Sheri Dougherty – Right-of-Way
 - Dale Dvorak – Logistics
 - Lisa Farringer – Logistics
 - Dick First – District 4, Hastings
 - Carolyn Fugerer – Cliff Thege's sister
 - Mark Hamilton – Logistics
 - Connie Hartman – Logistics
 - Merlin Hartman – Connie Hartman's husband
 - Ted Henderson – Logistics
 - Mike Houfek – Logistics
 - Bruce Hunzeker – Communication
 - Jim Jacobsen – District 2, Omaha
 - Gary Johnson – Logistics
 - Garry Kapperman – Logistics
 - Ryan McKay – Construction
 - Connie McNair – Cliff Thege's sister
 - Darcy Melbye – Logistics
 - Dale Piening – Logistics
 - Dalyce Ronnau – Materials & Research
 - Robert Rutt – Logistics
 - Greg Schafer – Logistics
 - Jim Schmailzl – Operations & Maintenance
 - Russ Skalak – Logistics
 - Deb Skalak – Russ Skalak's wife
 - Cliff Thege – Logistics
 - Cindy Weiss – Construction
- Note: These names were provided by NDOR employees affected by the Hallam disaster as a way of saying "thank you." This list does not include all of those involved in cleanup efforts in the surrounding area.



Photos by Jim Laughlin
Top -The force of the Hallam tornado lifted this home off its foundation and moved it to a new location.
Right - Devastation was left in the wake of the Hallam tornado, including damaged or destroyed homes, trees and grain silos.





Performance Measures: “Pavement Condition of Nebraska Highways” and “Smoother Roads”

This is the fourth in a series of articles featuring performance measures of the Nebraska Department of Roads.

As part of the Department of Roads’ Quality Improvement Program, a Measurement Organizational Improvement Team was chartered by the 1995 Quality Council. The charter was: “To establish an effective method of measuring progress in attaining the department’s mission, vision and values, which include measuring internal and external customer satisfaction.”

Today, the department has nineteen performance measures categorized into five areas: Safety, Construction Administration, Program Delivery, Systems Management and Quality.

The performance measure identified in the Performance Measures Report as “P5” involves the measurement of the quality of the highway surface. The performance measure identified as “P7” involves the measurement of the smoothness of the roads of the state highway system (9,969 miles).

According to Dan Nichols, NDOR’s Classification, Needs & Pavement Management Engineer, these two performance measures are closely interrelated, with P5 related to overall condition of the pavement and P7 associated with ride quality. Together they give the department a gauge of the condition of its highway system. This provides a tool for planning purposes in determining which roads need attention and the appropriate strategies for maintenance, rehabilitation or reconstruction that should be applied to them. The results are also used to help define the budgets for allocation of construction and maintenance funds to the state’s eight highways districts, Nichols said.

Pavement Condition

Nichols noted that P5, a measure of the surface condition of the state’s

highways, is achieved by conducting annual visual inspections, with pavement raters checking for different pavement distresses, including longitudinal cracking and transverse cracking. These distresses are rated on two things: severity and extent. The measurements are used to arrive at the Nebraska Serviceability Index (NSI) ratings.

For this performance measure, a goal was established that 82 percent of the highway system miles would be rated at least “good” or “very good.” These surface condition ratings are based on NSI ratings that are greater than or equal to 70. A NSI rating of 70 to 89 is

considered good and a NSI rating of 90 to 100 is considered very good.

The 2003 performance data show ratings of “good” or “very good” for 84 percent of the total highway system, 96 percent of the interstate system, 88 percent of the expressway system and 83 percent of other highways.

Nichols said he thinks 82 percent is a good, practical and affordable goal to achieve.

“When we have a high percentage of our roads in good or very good condition, it serves the public well and it helps us meet the goals of our mission statement.”

Smoother Roads

P7 is the measure of pavement smoothness. Nichols noted that the entire 10,000 miles of the state highway system are profiled annually, with a fully-equipped van that measures rut depth and faulting. In addition, a measure called the International Roughness Index (IRI) is collected to indicate the pavement smoothness or roughness in terms of the number of inches per mile, or millimeters per meter. The lower the IRI number, the better the ride.

Nichols noted, “With a smoother pavement, you’re going to have a better performing pavement, a safer roadway and there will be less damage to your vehicle.”

The goal for P7 is that 80 percent of all miles of the highway system shall be maintained at an acceptable ride quality of at least “good” or “very good” IRI ratings. An IRI rating of .86 to 2.48 millimeters per meter is considered good and an IRI rating of less than .86 millimeters per meter is considered very good.

Performance data for 1999 through 2003 show the goal was achieved for each of those years.

Nichols said those involved in tracking these performance measures are part of the Pavement Management Unit within the Classifications, Needs and Pavement Management Section of the Materials and Research Division at NDOR. He noted this unit has been in place since 1984, when they first began annual visual inspections of the state highway system.

The work is accomplished by unit leader Gary Brhel and five pavement raters: Dave Jochim, Bob Jaeger, Don George, Larry Griffith and Loren Henning. Griffith and Henning, from the Classifications & Needs Unit, help with the rating on a part-time basis. Jochim, Jaeger and George also do the pavement profiling.

P7 : Smoother Roads

% of Miles Meeting or Exceeding Acceptable Ride Quality IRI-s

Calendar Year	Interstate System (481 miles)	Expressway System (604 miles)	Other Highways (8,829 miles)	Total Highway System Miles (9,914 miles)
1997	93%	75%	77%	78%
1998	91%	83%	78%	79%
1999	96%	81%	81%	82%
2000	90%	81%	80%	82%
2001	94%	80%	84%	83%
2002	94%	77%	84%	84%
2003	92%	74%	84%	84%

Nichols noted that Brhel and Jochim each have about 20 years of experience and the others have five or more years of experience. He emphasized the great advantage NDOR has over many other transportation departments by being able to maintain consistent ratings from year to year.

Pavement Optimization Program

Nichols also believes it is important to measure the entire highway system every year to find trends and catch any pavements that are deteriorating faster than anticipated. He said that much of the information from the pavement rating system will be used in a new Pavement Optimization Program (POP), a tool for NDOR decision-makers to assess pavement conditions and determine the most appropriate strategies with the available budget.

Nichols said Dave Medinger, Pavement Management Coordinator, has been instrumental in working with Information Systems Division employees Jill Quackenbush, Bob Anderson and Mike Decker to develop the POP to its full potential. He is also working with the University of Nebraska to implement

their “PaveCare” program for pavement condition assessment and rehabilitation effectiveness. The rehabilitation effectiveness determined by PaveCare will be used to project deterioration rates and strategy benefits in NDOR’s POP application.

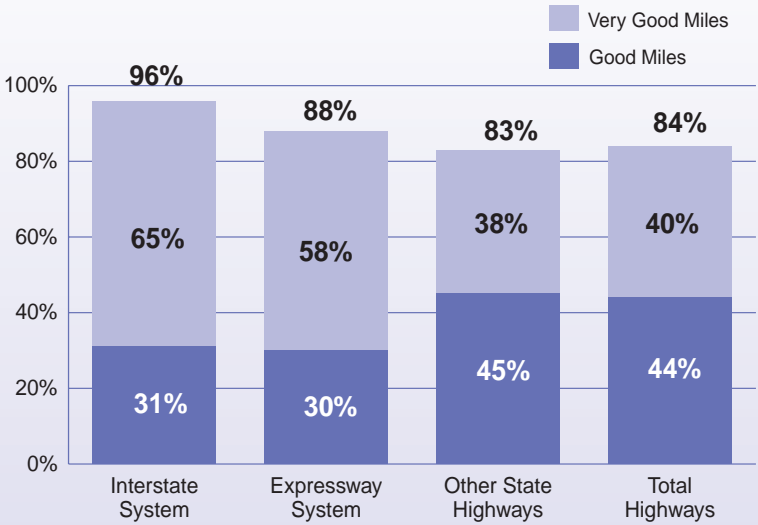
In addition to those involved in pavement rating, profiling and research, Nichols credited a much larger group for the pavement condition and smoothness of the state highway system.

“I would say the entire Department of Roads should be recognized for their efforts in achieving and surpassing these performance measures. Construction, maintenance, roadway design, planning, district engineers, those who program the projects...all of these people play a very important part in accomplishing the goals.”

In summing up the two performance measures and the department’s efforts in these areas, Nichols said, “I think we have one of the better highway systems in the country. The numbers show that. We’re doing a good job. When you go out and drive on these roads, you will discover that it’s a good system and one the department can be proud of.” ♦

P5 : Pavement Condition of Nebraska Highways

Year 2003 Performance Data



	Interstate System	Expressway System	Other Highways	Total Highway System Miles
Very Good Miles	312	352	3,334	3,998
Good Miles	151	184	3,997	4,332
Fair Miles	18	63	1,274	1,355
Poor Miles	0	5	204	209
Very Poor Miles	0	0	20	20

Job Directory

NDOR Highway Improvement Projects Currently Under Contract as of 7/19/04

Location Work Description Prime Contractor Project Manager Contract Bid Amount			
Key: Aggregate - Agg Bituminous - Bit Bridge - Br Building - Bldg Concrete Pavement - ConPav Culverts - Culv Electrical - Elec Grading - Gr Guardrail - Gdrl Seeding - Seed	Turkey Creek Channel Grading Negus-Sons, Inc. Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131 \$67,190.00	Pawnee City Southwest Bridge L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc. Manning, Ryan (402)421-1717 \$340,195.65	Dwight Southwest Bridge Dixon Construction Co. Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850 \$256,464.55
	Cook Southeast Gr, Br, Gdrl L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$374,089.58	Salem South Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl Elk Horn Construction Co. Mueller, Gerald (402)335-4131 \$463,664.25	Seward Northwest Bridge Elk Horn Construction Co. Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850 \$577,324.62
District 1 Greenwood Northeast Bridge L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc. Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661 \$331,151.48 Bellwood Northwest Bridge A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc. Cowles, Scott (402)443-4661 \$302,044.15 Sprague East Bridge Elk Horn Construction Co. Dearmont, Virgil (402)441-7681 \$386,638.50 Swanton Spur Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit Werner Construction, Inc. Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489 \$1,069,468.87 Plymouth West Gr, Agg, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Werner Construction, Inc. Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489 \$2,195,867.38 Branched Oak Lake Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit Constructors, Inc. England, Jim (402)471-0850 \$1,110,262.45 I-80 @ Beaver Crossing Interchange Bridge Herbst Construction, Inc. England, Jim (402)471-0850 \$87,513.50 I-80 @ Goehner Interchange Bridge Herbst Construction, Inc. England, Jim (402)471-0850 \$62,567.00 Odell East & West Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Constructors, Inc. Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131 \$2,480,272.98 Odell Southwest Bituminous Constructors, Inc. Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131 \$230,553.20 Liberty Spur East Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Constructors, Inc. Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131 \$1,278,236.26	Palmyra Maintenance Facility Palmyra Maintenance Facility Rogge General Contractors, Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$1,362,000.00 Lorton Southeast Gr, Culv Commercial Contractors Equip., Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$301,563.45 In Peru Culvert TCW Construction, Inc. Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$313,731.31 Brock - Lorton Bridge Bituminous Dobson Brothers Construction Co. & Affiliates Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$562,371.66 Dunbar South Bituminous Dobson Brothers Construction Co. & Affiliates Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131 \$424,754.46 Cornhusker Hwy. Interchange Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Constructors, Inc. Holak, Hugh (402)471-0850 \$11,870,599.65 Oak Creek Bridges Gr, ConPav, Br Capital Contractors, Inc. Holak, Hugh (402)471-0850 \$2,718,850.13 I-80 Over Cornhusker Hwy. & BNSF Railroad Gr, ConPav, Br Capital Contractors, Inc. Holak, Hugh (402)471-0850 \$3,871,249.32 I-80 to Cornhusker Hwy. Bituminous Pavers Companies Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850 \$1,295,200.00 Nebraska City Northwest Gr, Br, Gdrl L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc. Lane, Chris (402)483-5466 \$415,480.48 Fairbury Northwest Bridge A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc. Lane, Chris (402)483-5466 \$646,289.05 Friend South Culverts TCW Construction, Inc. Lane, Chris (402)483-5466 \$93,523.69	Julian North & South Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec Dobson Brothers Construction Co. & Affiliates Mueller, Gerald (402)335-4131 \$12,645,541.65 Friend - Milford Bituminous Werner Construction, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$1,351,028.45 Abie - N-15 Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Constructors, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$2,294,861.05 Prague South Br, Gdrl Constructors, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$56,781.16 Milford East Gr, Br, Gdrl A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc. Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850 \$655,054.08 Hickman North Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit Pavers Companies Plouzek, Jim (402)441-7681 \$1,329,000.01 Crete - Dorchester Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit Constructors, Inc. Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850 \$3,724,708.35 Palmyra - Unadilla Landscaping D.F. Lanoha Landscape Nursery, Inc. Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850 \$107,400.00 Ceresco - Wahoo Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl Elec Dobson Bros. Construction Co. & Affiliates Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850 \$13,765,215.42 Lewis & Clark Access Rd. Gr, Culv, Elec, Bit Hennings Const., Inc. Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$499,367.53 Union West Specialty Monarch Oil, Inc. Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$125,058.12 250th St. Intersection near Ashland Bituminous Pavers Companies Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850 \$179,900.00	Endicott West Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit Werner Construction, Inc. Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489 \$1,377,317.97 Fairbury - Jansen Seed, Gdrl, Bit Werner Construction, Inc. Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489 \$1,843,308.35 Fairbury North Bituminous Werner Construction, Inc. Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489 \$1,837,520.85 Lincoln Surveyors Building Lincoln Surveyors Building Rogge General Contractors, Inc. Wood, Glenda (402)479-4498 \$658,029.00
District 2 West Dodge Bridge Over I-680 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co. Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534 \$15,694,829.63 174th St. - 198th St., Omaha Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co. Baratta, Joseph (402)595-2534 \$15,703,247.66 Blair - Kennard Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit Luxa Construction Co., Inc. Brown, Darin G (402)727-3292 \$4,244,619.96 Maple St. - Fort St., Omaha Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co. Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534 \$15,416,759.67 Bridge Over I-680 @ Sprague St. Gr, Br Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co. Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534 \$1,094,339.95 N-370 to N-50 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Hawkins Construction Co. Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534 \$18,862,392.57 N-370 to Ruff Rd. Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign Hawkins Construction Co. Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534 \$39,143,149.79			

Automated Work Zone System
Specialty
Watts Electric Company
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534
\$466,115.00

Springfield North & South
Specialty
Micheels Construction Co.
Gjersvik, John (402)595-2534
\$33,436.20

Murray West
Specialty
Micheels Construction Co.
Gjersvik, John (402)595-2534
\$185,542.68

Schramm Park East
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Gjersvik, John (402)595-2534
\$202,061.11

District 2 - Districtwide
Electrical
Commonwealth Electric Co.
of the Midwest
Gjersvik, John (402)595-2534
\$70,609.42

108th St., Burt-W. Maple Rd., Omaha
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Chas. Vrana & Son Constr. Co.
Glow, Tom (402)444-5279
\$3,040,849.70

Rogers - Fremont
Bituminous
Constructors, Inc.
Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292
\$2,559,032.33

Elkhorn South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec
WBE Company, Inc.
Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534
\$2,407,088.79

Fort Calhoun Southeast
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Krajewski, Matt (402)255-3820
\$1,986,671.00

Boyer Chute Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge
Gr, Bit
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Krajewski, Matt (402)255-3820
\$475,368.80

Papillion West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
WBE Company, Inc.
Peterson, Roger (402)255-3831
\$3,299,003.92

In Blair
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec
Luxa Construction Co., Inc.
Trujillo, Ray (402)727-3292
\$6,183,447.41

I-680 to N-36, Omaha
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,
Br, Gdrl, Elec
Hawkins Construction Co.
Veverka, Frank (402)727-3292
\$12,915,674.88

Waterloo Southeast
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl,
Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$20,452,885.99

198th St. - Skyline Dr., Omaha
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Weander, Marty (402)595-2534
\$18,371,814.38

N-133 to 72nd St., Omaha
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Wilson, Bill (402)595-2534
\$1,681,029.77

Fort Atkinson State Park
Bituminous
U.S. Asphalt Co.
Wilson, Bill (402)595-2534
\$96,573.92

W. Dodge Rd. 132nd St. - 120th St.
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec, Sign
Hawkins Construction Co.
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534
\$5,021,822.65

District 3

Columbus North
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br
A & R Construction Co.
Anderson, Dave (308)385-6889
\$997,583.62

Schuyler North
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$2,279,705.64

Schuyler East & West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl,
Elec, Sign
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Anderson, David (402)564-5751
\$19,184,951.80

Verdigre Southwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Graves Construction Co., Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$389,922.29

Ewing - Clearwater
Gdrl, Bit
Constructors, Inc.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$1,186,090.62

Brunswick North
Culvert
A & R Construction Co.
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552
\$105,375.45

Dixon Northeast
Bridge
Graves Construction Co., Inc.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$618,260.30

Wisner - West Point
Bituminous
Constructors, Inc.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$1,333,187.19

Wayne Northwest
Bridge
Elk Horn Construction Co.
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071
\$446,350.60

Orchard East & West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$3,498,473.27

N-13 to South Jct. N-98
Bituminous
Brower Construction Co.
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474
\$1,053,952.07

Norfolk East
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474
\$18,274,985.53

Madison East
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit
Knight Asphalt, Inc.
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474
\$1,046,744.46

In Stanton
Bituminous
Knight Asphalt, Inc.
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474
\$118,426.48

Carroll South & Pierce East
Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Dirks, Tony (402)254-6552
\$101,481.75

Pierce East
Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Dirks, Tony (402)254-6552
\$354,676.70

Statewide Advance Beacon
Electrical
Dominion Construction Co.
Domogalla, Kevin (402)370-3474
\$85,308.40

West Point Southwest
Bridge
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Fornoff, Kris (402)564-5751
\$461,719.45

Wakefield North & South
Gr, Culv, Gdrl, Bit
Brower Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$1,020,089.76

Jct N-116 to East Jct N-9
Bituminous
Brower Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$701,316.58

Dixon North & South
Bituminous
Brower Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$907,397.45

Concord Spur
Bituminous
Brower Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$389,224.53

Wayne East
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Brower Construction Co.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$4,418,941.08

Homer South
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071
\$477,326.99

Newman Grove Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Herbst Construction, Inc.
Manning, Ryan (402)421-1717
\$400,312.93

Bancroft Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Mueting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$928,503.60

Norfolk North
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
& Affiliates
Mueting, Curt (402)370-3474
\$8,592,417.11

West Point - Oakland
Bituminous
Henningsen Const., Inc.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$1,689,068.35

West Point - Oakland
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Henningsen Const., Inc.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$2,281,497.19

Winside North
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Brower Construction Co.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$823,556.68

BNSE, Oakland
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Luxa Construction Co., Inc.
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474
\$1,548,274.90

Silver Creek - Duncan
Bituminous
Constructors, Inc.
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$1,076,024.75

Tarnov South
Landscaping
Gross Seed Company, Inc.
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$88,824.11

5th St. - 8th St., Columbus
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$1,371,729.60

Columbus - Madison
Specialty
American Civil Constructors, Inc.
& Subsidiary
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751
\$2,855,228.68

Hartington North
Culverts
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$141,700.05

South Sioux City & South
Specialty
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$75,726.00

Humphrey - Madison
Specialty
Sta-Bilt Construction Co.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$555,746.66

Belden - Laurel
Specialty
Sta-Bilt Construction Co.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$836,405.56

US-77/S. Ridge Dr., So. Sioux City
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Gill Construction, Inc.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$479,296.81

Decatur South
Specialty
Asphalt Surface Technologies Corp.
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552
\$11,628.00

District 4

York North & South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Dobson Brothers Constr. Co.
& Affiliates

Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934
\$18,182,230.53

Kearney North
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$5,884,195.46

Elm Creek - Miller
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$2,441,543.78

Hazard Southeast
Bridge
Wilke Contracting Corp.
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434
\$322,829.66

Hall/Merrick Co. Line - Chapman
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$1,530,574.15

N-2 Over I-80
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl
Capital Contractors, Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$1,487,344.88

I-80/US-34/281 Interchange
Landscaping
Gross Seed Co., Inc.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$36,364.20

Merrick Co Line West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co. & Affls.
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888
\$5,123,897.10

Nebraska/Kansas Line North
Specialty
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$2,889,190.53

I-80 Waco Interchange
Bridge
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$39,802.90

Milligan West
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934
\$279,377.72

Geneva North & South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$16,859,071.23

Hampton - Henderson
Gdrl, Bit
Dobson Bros. Constr. Co. & Affls.
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996
\$1,418,014.93

Silver Creek South
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$2,846,433.54

Pleasanton - Hazard
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$456,067.86

Fullerton North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$2,812,084.50

Cotesfield Southeast
Culverts
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$120,520.87

Greeley East
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$367,492.29

Elba Northwest
Bridge
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411
\$348,778.25

Grafton Northeast
Bridge
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Lane, Chris (402)483-5466
\$393,858.75

Kenesaw Southeast
Gr, Culv, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Manning, Ryan (402)421-1717
\$272,819.51

Ruskin Southwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$352,577.59

Lawrence East
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$5,644,665.62

Red Cloud North
Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$1,395,443.23

Red Cloud East
Specialty
Sta-Bilt Construction Co.
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996
\$292,721.76

Deshler South
Bridge
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Rathjen, Scott (402)362-7117
\$366,522.19

Strang North & South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Ruxton, Bob (402)462-1996
\$8,708,874.79

Intersec. US-6/Blaine Ave, Hastings
Gr, Culv, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Ruxton, Bob (402)462-1996
\$358,254.97

Wood River Interchange
Bridge
A.M. Cohron & Son, Inc.
Ruxton, Bob (402)462-1996
\$1,588,201.27

Kearney - Minden
Specialty
American Civil Constructors, Inc.
& Subsidiary
Ruxton, Bob (402)462-1996
\$1,410,132.78

Fullerton Maint. Shop & Ofc. Facility
Fullerton Vehicle Maintenance Shop
& Office Facility
Crafts, Inc.
Sander, Gary (308)385-6265
\$461,883.00

Alexandria North
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$927,354.42

Hebron - Gilead
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489
\$1,243,951.56

Prosser North
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
The Diamond Engineering Co.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888
\$613,457.24

Grand Island South
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign
Werner Construction, Inc.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888
\$9,800,324.79

Wood River - Grand Island
Bituminous
Sta-Bilt Construction Co.
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888
\$70,203.80

Clarks South Bridges
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Hawkins Construction Co.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$3,468,746.45

Phillips & Giltner Spurs
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$1,071,711.64

In Scotia
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Werner Construction, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$1,832,596.16

Wolbach West
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
L.J. Webb Contractor, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$2,308,111.47

East Jct. US-6 to Aurora Interchange
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888
\$311,822.10

District 5

Scottsbluff-Gering Bypass
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br
Ames Construction, Inc.
Applegate, Joe (308)632-1429
\$17,270,595.51

Harrison South
Gr, Culv, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$3,055,939.86

Harrison Salt Storage Facility
Harrison Salt Storage Facility
Paul Reed Constr. & Supply, Inc.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$57,880.00

Chadron North
Specialty
Topkote, Inc.
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$167,109.00

Crawford West
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$2,298,422.57

US-385 East
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$1,296,774.34

Hay Springs South
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$862,874.99

Harrison Maintenance Facility
Harrison Maintenance Facility
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144
\$445,000.00

Lodgepole to US-138 Viaduct
Bridge
Reiman Corp.
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1929
\$139,377.36

Statewide Dms
Gdrl, Sign
Watts Electric Company
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1929
\$779,314.73

Oshkosh - South Platte River
Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Custer, Dennis (308)262-1929
\$3,948,872.26

Box Butte/Sioux Line West
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Fast, Dean (308)632-1429
\$2,057,529.01

Scottsbluff - Minatare
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Fast, Dean (308)632-1429
\$8,552,774.73

Bushnell - Kimball
Bridge
Reiman Corp.
Fast, Dean (308)632-1429
\$502,657.60

Marsland North
Gr, Culv, Bit
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Fast, Dean (308)632-1429
\$4,347,919.63

Minatare Lake Recreation Rd.
Gr, Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Fast, Dean (308)632-1429
\$2,222,124.99

Jct L17e/US-30 In Sunol
Gr, Culv, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929
\$265,133.90

Sidney - Lodgepole
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929
\$3,337,580.24

Scottsbluff North
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Hilderbrand, Sylvia L (308)262-1920
\$922,893.91

In Alliance
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Hilderbrand, Sylvia L (308)262-1920
\$1,957,596.79

Harrison Northeast
Bridge
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Rigg, Ryan (307)637-6017
\$448,691.06

Lodgepole Interchange
Electrical
Watts Electric Company
Smith, Don (308)262-1929
\$116,057.75

N-138 Interchange
Electrical
Watts Electric Company
Smith, Don (308)262-1929
\$163,254.80

District 6

Paxton East
Specialty
Multiple Concrete Enterprises, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$1,469,020.59

Gothenburg East & West
Specialty
Multiple Concrete Enterprises, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$1,251,986.75

Hershey East
Specialty
Multiple Concrete Enterprises, Inc.
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$1,633,011.94

Big Springs - Brule
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033
\$3,160,488.26

Gothenburg Southwest
Bridge
Capital Contractors, Inc.
Halstead, Kerri (308)535-8031
\$455,554.80

Ringgold North
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Halstead, Kerri (308)535-8031
\$800,867.33

Callaway Northeast
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Leach, Roy (308)535-8033
\$1,007,554.08

Halsey North
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Leach, Roy (308)535-8033
\$507,120.79

Arnold South
Bridge
Perrett Construction, Ltd.
Manning, Ryan (402)421-1717
\$311,567.50

Big Springs South
Gr, ConPav, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$1,272,970.23

Junction US-83/S-56B
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Cement Products, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$1,838,227.40

Jct US-30/L-56G, North Platte
Electrical
Cement Products, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$43,894.12

Ogallala West
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033
\$2,337,388.51

In Maxwell
Specialty
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$73,620.21

Ogallala South
Specialty
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$443,658.85

Ashby West
Gr, Culv, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$1,439,382.22

Big Springs - Brule
Specialty
Kirk Barnes Construction, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$390,965.50

In Big Springs
Specialty
Kirk Barnes Construction, Inc.
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$101,224.45

Lemoine - West
Bituminous
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033
\$2,999,216.95

Wallace North
Gr, Culv, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$3,599,896.94

Brady East
ConPav
Diamond Surface, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,889,966.54

Cozad - Darr
ConPav
Diamond Surface, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,903,226.79

Wellfleet South
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$1,095,807.92

Maintenance Facility @ North Platte
Bldg. Construction
Interstate Structures, Inc.
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033
\$285,000.00

Broken Bow - Berwyn
Specialty
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$132,209.19

In Gothenburg
Specialty
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$400,629.01

In Arnold
Specialty
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$10,557.50

Halsey East
Gr, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$2,648,120.76

Oconto North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$9,181,360.56

In Mullen
Specialty
Kirk Barnes Construction, Inc.
White, Dennis (308)872-6735
\$161,933.50

District 7

Elwood Southwest
Culvert
Cement Products, Inc.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$79,522.97

Lincoln County Line South
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$1,371,360.43

Orafino to US-283 Bridges
Gr, Agg, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl
Adams Construction Co. &
Adams Land Improvement, Inc.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$2,507,145.68

District 7 - Districtwide
Specialty
Vogel Traffic Services, Inc.
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490
\$773,040.01

Curtis - Orafino
Specialty
Dustrol, Inc.
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490
\$990,064.77

W. 4th St. - E. 7th St., McCook
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec
Paulsen, Inc.
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490
\$3,189,394.06

Max - Stratton
Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490
\$2,816,154.25

McCook - Cambridge
Specialty
Highway Improvement, Inc.
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490
\$158,609.76

Fort Kearney Link
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$470,326.57

Heartwell East
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$1,331,029.47

Minden West
Gr, Culv, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$780,842.77

Heartwell Northeast
Culvert
Midlands Contracting, Inc.
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397
\$76,463.65

Alma South
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Quinn, Jerry (308)995-5397
\$573,138.39

Alma - Republican City
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Quinn, Jerry (308)995-5397
\$8,976,048.42

Naponee Spur Bridge
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397
\$701,964.20

Orleans East
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397
\$4,813,919.34

Holbrook - Arapahoe
Specialty
Sta-Bilt Construction Co.
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397
\$262,565.18

Madrid - Elsie
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$2,147,981.18

Elsie - Perkins/Lincoln Co. Line
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$1,416,949.87

Culbertson South
Bituminous
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$1,213,036.51

US-6 North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Paulsen, Inc.
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490
\$2,255,565.09

District 8

Niobrara River North & South
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$6,153,291.28

Spencer South
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$418,422.16

Bristow East & West
Bituminous
Werner Construction, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$674,381.15

Hyannis Northeast
Culvert
Paul Reed Constr. & Supply, Inc.
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051
\$64,649.25

Spencer Northwest
Gr, Br, Gdrl
Graves Construction Co., Inc.
Fluckey, Dustin (402)483-5466
\$474,950.50

Butte - Spencer
Bituminous
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$1,738,106.12

District 8 - Districtwide
Specialty
Vogel Traffic Services, Inc.
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471
\$543,756.76

District 8 - Districtwide
Guardrail
Midwest Fence Co. -
Guardrail Systems, Inc.
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471
\$42,840.00

Burwell North
Specialty
Monarch Oil, Inc.
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471
\$262,381.98

Stuart North
Bridge
Christensen Bros., Inc.
Smith, Lloyd (402)376-2691
\$686,849.40

O'Neill North
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit
Werner Construction, Inc.
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051
\$5,268,204.49

Bartlett South
Gr, Culv, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051
\$2,705,230.30

Bartlett North & South
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit
Western Engineering Co., Inc.
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051
\$2,768,614.82

TURF & GARDEN

By Dick Gray
Agronomist



Great Gardens

Turf - Where has the summer gone? It's time to prep the lawn for seeding and reseeding. Try to have your bluegrass and fescues planted by the 15th of the month. It is 60 days to frost, and this gives the grass plenty of time to get established and hardened off for winter. Tired of mowing this year? What a pleasant relief from blowing away in the wind. Keep the mower at 3 inches until later in the month when the nights cool down, and then you can go to 2½ inches for the rest of the season. If you are going to aerate this fall, wait until early September. If you have access to compost, either your own, or a city composting operation, follow the aeration with a top dressing of compost for a knock-out lawn!

Trees - This summer's moisture has helped, but do not be surprised if there are some trees that still decline. This has been set in motion with the last few years of drought, yet there will be trees that this summer's rains have saved. Late August is a good time to transplant coniferous trees. If the deciduous trees are still in the mulch pile at the nursery, you can plant these now, too. If they need to be dug, wait until leaf drop to move them. Looking to plant something that signals that spring is right around the corner? Consider the willow family. The variety "The Hague" has big 2-inch catkins and only grows 6-8 feet tall and 4-6 feet wide. Or try the variety "Melanostachys." This Japanese pussy willow has a ¾-inch long, black catkin with red anthers—very dramatic!

Garden - What a great year for a garden! Extra produce? Remember your local food pantry or food bank. They do appreciate the fresh produce. Remember to read the chemical labels and observe the waiting period between spraying and picking.

From the Weather Calendar - Summer heat getting you down? Well cheer up: The next ice age should be on its way—in fact it's late. The average interval between ice ages in recent history has been 6,000 years. But the current interglacial warm spell is now going on for some 12,000 years (and that's good for us).

Bad Luck from the Weather Calendar - Waldport, Oregon—A resident was struck by lightning while carrying 35 sticks of dynamite (1972). Parts of him are still in orbit!

We Get Letters, Phone Calls & E-mails ...

June 22, 2004

To: Rich Ruby & Roger Kalkwarf
Re: Vice President Cheney Visit

On behalf of the City of Lincoln, I wanted to send you a quick note, expressing our appreciation for your efforts in making your staff and equipment available for the recent visit by Vice President Dick Cheney. With your assistance, we were able to provide a secure situation and minimize the disruption to traffic on I-180. Our ability to rely on you for assistance during major events such as these, makes serving the people of Lincoln a much easier task. Again thank you.

Scott Opfer, Manager
Traffic & Engineering Services Operations

Editor's Note: Rich Ruby is NDOR's District 1 Engineer and Roger Kalkwarf is the District 1 Maintenance Superintendent.

July 8, 2004

To: Ron Kontos
Re: Automated Permit System

This is a great system. Our company is strictly a heavy haul/over-dimensional carrier and every day is spent on the phone with permit offices and permit companies. I can only hope that this type of system catches on and other states go to it. We use a few other states' automated permit systems, but yours exceeds theirs by leaps and bounds. Thanks for the work and effort in implementing this system.

David Womack
2B Trucking, LLC
Diboll, Texas

Editor's Note: Ron Kontos is the Motor Carrier Permits Manager in the Rail & Public Transportation Division. C.W. Beilfuss & Associates from Downers Grove, Illinois developed NDOR's automated permit system for overweight and overdimensional trucks in Nebraska. Employees from several NDOR divisions, including Rail & Public Transportation, Bridge, Communication, Controller, and Information Systems were also instrumental in the effort. The system became fully operation in February.

June 29, 2004

My congratulations and thanks for the effective signs on I-80 thru Omaha. I recently drove alone to Iowa for my granddaughter's wedding and found Nebraska's signing much more sufficient than Iowa. As a 75-year-old traveling alone, I greatly appreciated it.

Marilyn Oestmann
Lincoln, Nebraska

July 14, 2004

Dear Mr. Todd Peterson,

Pacific Propeller International LLC and the U.S. Navy NAS New Orleans AIMD would like to send a huge "thank you" to you and your crew, which returned a U.S. Navy Propeller Log Book.

I received a call last week from you stating that the Nebraska Department of Roads found something of mine, in fact it was a U.S. Navy Propeller Log Book. This Propeller was shipped to our facility this month; upon arrival we noticed that the log book was missing. Apparently, it landed in Nebraska on Highway I-80!

As my husband works for the WSDOT, I know that DOT employees find numerous items along the highways and most are just useless items and tossed away. Thank goodness you and your crew took the effort to look, read, call and mail back the log book to our facility. This saved NAS New Orleans from recreating the Propeller history, which is a huge time-consuming task.

Helen M. Heathman
Quality Assurance Technician
Pacific Propeller International, LLC

Editor's Note: Todd Peterson is the Hwy. Maintenance Supervisor at District 5 in Chappell.

The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.

June 27, 2004

Governor Johanns,

I write to commend the Nebraska Department of Roads and the rest area maintenance contractors for the excellence of the rest areas along Interstate 80 in Nebraska.

My wife and I just returned from a trip from Colorado to eastern Iowa and back, traveling the entire length of Nebraska twice. I am recuperating from hip surgery, so I am only good for about 2-2½ hours of driving before I have to get out and walk around. We made use of several rest areas in your state.

We found Nebraska rest areas to be very pleasant places to take a break: broad expanses of grass, plenty of shade, adequate parking, helpful staff and, most importantly, clean rest rooms. We were not disappointed anywhere along the way.

Please let your Department of Roads personnel and the maintenance contractors know how much we appreciate their good work.

James R. Dryden
Fort Collins, Colorado

Our Top Twenty

NDOR employees with the most total state service
as of June 2004.

Name	Office	Service Date
1. Andreasen, Merritt A.	Elkhorn (D-2)	05-28-51
2. Hausman, Larry J.	Hartington (D-3)	08-15-51
3. Wenzl, Louis P.	Lincoln (HQ)	05-01-53
4. Bumanis, Osvalds O.	Lincoln (HQ)	12-04-53
5. Voss, Ernest W.	Lincoln (HQ)	03-22-54
6. Regelean, Irene G.	Lincoln (HQ)	05-28-54
7. Henning, Arnold H.	Lincoln (HQ)	08-04-54
8. Norris, Barbara K.	Lincoln (HQ)	09-12-55
9. Schaefer, E.L.	Norfolk (D-3)	04-12-56
10. Henning, Loren E.	Lincoln (HQ)	10-08-56
11. Engel, Barbara K.	Lincoln (HQ)	03-28-57
12. Eglite, Andrejs	Lincoln (HQ)	06-07-57
13. Sharp, Daniel J.	Lincoln (HQ)	06-10-57
14. Shafer, Larry G.	Lincoln (HQ)	09-07-57
15. Pavel, Leland D.	Lincoln (HQ)	09-09-57
16. Yonkey, Arthur B.	Lincoln (HQ)	12-01-57
17. Freemon, Lyman D.	Lincoln (HQ)	01-20-58
18. Smets, William N.	Lexington (D-6)	04-01-58
19. Ronnau, Dalyce F.	Lincoln (HQ)	06-09-58
20. Lentz, Freddie D.	Omaha (D-2)	07-28-58



By Jan Lundquist, RN

Safeguard Against West Nile Virus

I would like to discuss an issue we are all faced with during these summer months, West Nile Virus, and hope this information can prevent someone from unwanted suffering.

Nebraska's first human case of West Nile Virus for the year 2004 was reported on June 15. The woman is in the 26-50 year age range and is recuperating. The first reported cases in 2003 were reported in July. There were 2,633 reported cases and 29 deaths, ranking Nebraska third in the nation for West Nile Virus deaths. Texas was first, followed by Colorado.

What can we do? If you find a dead bird in your yard, you can report it to your local health department. Birds of interest that are carriers of West Nile Virus include the American Crow, Blue Jay, Red-Tailed Hawk and Owl.

The best defense against mosquitoes is to not provide them with a breeding ground. Get rid of any containers holding stagnant water. Dispose of old tires properly. Clean roof gutters. Turn over wheelbarrows and wading pools when not in use. Mosquitoes may breed in any puddle that is four days old. While you are outside, spray DEET on your clothing. Light colored clothing also helps to repel mosquitoes. Avoid spraying DEET on children. It is best to apply with your hand. Read directions carefully.

Who is at risk for West Nile Virus? People who have suppressed immune systems and those over 50 years of age are at the highest risk. Children are not considered high risk.

Symptoms of West Nile Virus include:

- ✓ Moderate to high fever with abrupt onset
- ✓ Headache, sore throat, backache, pain or aching muscles, pain in joints, fatigue, vomiting and conjunctivitis

- ✓ Rash, swollen glands

- ✓ Acute aseptic meningitis or encephalitis

If you suspect you may have West Nile Virus, contact your health care provider immediately. The level of treatment will depend on the severity of the virus. Since it is a virus, antibiotics will not treat West Nile Virus. Hospital care may be required to decrease the risk of complications from the virus.

Have a great and safe summer! If there are any health-related interests that you would like to see in the Roadrunner, please let me know. I look forward to working with you.

NDOR's Health & Wellness Nurses

For the last several months, two nurses have been on duty at NDOR's Lincoln headquarters, a change from the past when there was only one nurse. However, each nurse has different duties and functions, something many NDOR employees may not realize.



Jane Brommer

Jane Brommer is the health nurse and Jan Lundquist is the wellness nurse. While Jane's duties are more closely related to health treatment, Jan's efforts are directed toward health prevention. Both came to NDOR through Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital.

Jane's office is located in the Central Headquarters basement and her hours are Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Her duties include treating minor injuries, such as scrapes, cuts, sprains and bruises that may occur during the work day. Jane is also available to dispense over-the-counter medicines as required. She also responds to emergencies, including giving CPR and medical care as needed. Jane does blood pressure screenings, health counseling, answers health questions and can provide written information on specific health concerns, as well as give health advice and referrals. She performs her duties within the local area.

Before coming to NDOR, Jane worked at the Arthritis Center of Nebraska, HealthSouth Occupational Health medical clinic and for the St. Elizabeth Physician's Network. Her nursing career has spanned over the past 30 years. Jane lives in Lincoln with her husband, Robert. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Jan's office is located on "The Hill" and her hours are Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Her duties include developing and presenting wellness programs on a statewide basis for NDOR. Topics include weight loss, stress, anti-smoking program, and anything else of interest to employees. She will also do blood pressure checks, cholesterol and glucose checks throughout the state, once the programs are implemented.



Jan Lundquist

Prior to coming to NDOR, Jan was employed at Swanson Foods in Omaha as an occupational nurse. She was a case manager for a national company and was an occupational nurse at Tri-Con Industries. Jan lives in Lincoln with her husband, Frank, and four children, ages 24, 21, 19 and 12. Hobbies and interests include photography, an Irish Setter, Louie, and Wynonna Judd, whose concerts Jan attends frequently. ♦

NDOR Events Calendar

— August —

- 10 New Employee Orientation Program**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Steve Olson @ 479-3601
- 11 RoadToasters**
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 18 RoadToasters** (speech contest – humorous & evaluation)
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 19 Project Scheduling Meeting**
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 20 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 22-28 National Truck Driver Appreciation Week**
www.truckline.com
- 25 RoadToasters**
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 26 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 27 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 8/27 - 9/12 You Drink & Drive. You Lose. Crackdown** www.nhtsa.gov
- 8/31 - 9/6 National Stop on Red Week** www.fhwa.dot.gov

— September —

- 1-3 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Workshop – Sept. 1, 10:00 a.m. - Sept. 3, 2:00 p.m.,
Holiday Inn, Kearney, Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 6 State Holiday – Labor Day**
- 8 RoadToasters**
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 11 Patriot Day**
- 14 New Employee Orientation Program**
NDOR Central Headquarters
Contact Steve Olson @ 479-3601
- 15 RoadToasters** (speeches only)
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837

- 17 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 22 RoadToasters**
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Cindy Shockey @ 479-3837
- 23 Project Scheduling Meeting**
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 24 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 29 Annual Rewards & Recognition Ceremony**
I-80 Holiday Inn, Grand Island
- 30 Letting**
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528

— October —

- 1 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**
Meeting: 8:45 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
Examination: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. NDOR Auditorium
- 4-8 Drive Safely Work Week** www.netsnational.org/dswww.asp
- 4-8 International Walk to School Week** www.iwalktoschool.org
- 5 New Employee Orientation Program**
NDOR Central Headquarters
- 6 RoadToasters** (speeches only)
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
- 7 State Govt. Nebraska Mgmt. Exposition**
State Capitol, Contact Lois Danico @ 479-4331
- 10 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day** www.brakesonfatalities.org
- 11 State Holiday – Columbus Day**
- 13 RoadToasters**
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
- 15 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**
Time TBA, Scottsbluff, Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 17-23 International School Bus Safety Week** www.napt.org
- 22 Hwy. Commission Meeting**
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
- 25-29 Nebraska Winter Weather Awareness Week**
- 27 RoadToasters**
12:05-12:55 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.
- 29 Project Scheduling Meeting**
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail lwilson@dor.state.ne.us. Information for the October/November Roadrunner should be received by September 16.

Nebraska Department of Roads
Communication Division
1500 Hwy 2
PO Box 94759
Lincoln NE 68509-4759
27-6900

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